

In the claims:

1. (Original) A method of treating unwanted hair, comprising transmitting acoustic waves through the hair so as to generate heat at a follicle, a dermal papilla, a hair bulge and/or a germinal matrix of the hair, said heat being in itself sufficient to damage or destroy said follicle, said dermal papilla, said hair bulge and/or said germinal matrix.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising using a wave condenser for condensing said acoustic waves, prior to said transmitting of said acoustic waves through the hair.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising gripping the hair prior to transmitting of said acoustic waves so as to enhance acoustic coupling between the hair and said acoustic waves.

4. (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein said gripping comprises positioning the hair and/or said wave condenser such that a propagation direction of said acoustic waves while entering said wave condenser is generally parallel to a longitudinal axis of the hair.

5. (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein said gripping comprises positioning the hair and/or said wave condenser such that a propagation direction of said acoustic waves while entering said wave condenser is generally perpendicular to a longitudinal axis of the hair.

6. (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein said gripping comprises positioning the hair and/or said wave condenser such that a propagation direction of said acoustic waves while entering said wave condenser is generally inclined to a longitudinal axis of the hair.

7. (Original) The method of claim 3, further comprising pulling the hair so as to effect a detachment of the hair.

8. (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein said acoustic coupling is characterized by a coupling length selected such that said heat at said follicle, said dermal papilla, said hair bulge and/or said germinal matrix results in a temperature increment of at least 20 degrees centigrade.

9-11. (Canceled)

12. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein at least one of: a frequency, a power density and duration of transmission of said acoustic waves is selected so as to minimize vibrations of the hair.

13-15. (Canceled)

16. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein at least one of: a frequency, a power density and duration of transmission of said acoustic waves is selected such that said generation of said heat is such that said heat at said follicle, said dermal papilla, said hair bulge and/or said germinal matrix results in a temperature increment of at least 20 degrees centigrade.

17. (Original) The method of claim 16, wherein said frequency is an off-resonance frequency.

18. (Original) The method of claim 16, wherein said acoustic waves comprise ultrasound waves.

19. (Original) The method of claim 18, wherein said ultrasound waves are at a frequency of at least 150 kHz.

20-24. (Canceled)

25. (Currently Amended) A device ~~(20)~~ for treating unwanted hair protruding from a skin, the device comprising:

a transducer ~~(22)~~ for generating acoustic waves;

characterized in that the device further comprises a wave condenser ~~(24)~~, for gripping the hair (28) to establish acoustic coupling between said acoustic waves and the hair in a manner such that said acoustic waves are condensed, transmitted through the hair (28) past the skin (30) and generate heat at a follicle ~~(31)~~, a dermal papilla (32), a hair bulge (35) and/or a germinal matrix (33) of the hair;

said heat being in itself sufficient to damage or destroy said follicle, said dermal papilla, said hair bulge and/or said germinal matrix.

26. (Original) The device of claim 25, wherein said wave condenser is designed and constructed such that a propagation direction of said acoustic waves while entering said wave condenser is generally parallel to a longitudinal axis of the hair.

27. (Original) The device of claim 25, wherein said wave condenser is designed and constructed such that a propagation direction of said acoustic waves while entering said wave condenser is generally perpendicular to a longitudinal axis of the hair.

28. (Original) The device of claim 25, wherein said wave condenser is designed and constructed such that a propagation direction of said acoustic waves while entering said wave condenser is generally inclined to a longitudinal axis of the hair.

29-32. (Canceled)

33. (Original) The device of claim 25, wherein at least one of: a frequency, a power density and duration of transmission of said acoustic waves is selected so as to minimize vibrations of the hair.

34-36. (Canceled)

37. (Original) The device of claim 25, wherein at least one of: a frequency, a power density and a duration of transmission of said acoustic waves is selected such

that said heat at said follicle, said dermal papilla, said hair bulge and/or said germinal matrix results in a temperature increment of at least 20 degrees centigrade.

38. (Original) The device of claim 37, wherein said frequency is an off-resonance frequency.

39. (Original) The device of claim 37, wherein said transducer is an ultrasound transducer generating ultrasound waves.

40-47. (Canceled)

48. (Original) The device of claim 25, further comprising a focusing element coupling said transducer and said wave condenser, said focusing element being designed and constructed to focus said acoustic waves into said wave condenser.

49-53. (Canceled)

54. (Original) The device of claim 39, wherein said wave condenser comprises a chamber configured to receive the hair such that energy of said acoustic waves is transferred to the hair from a plurality of directions.

55-69. (Canceled)

70. (Original) The device of claim 39, wherein said ultrasound waves are at a frequency of at least 150 kHz.

71-300. (Canceled)

REMARKS